

[19] Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China

[11] Laid-Open Number: CN 1141194A

[12] Laid-Open Patent Application

[21] Application Number: 96106504.4

[43] Laid-Open Date: Jan. 29, 1997

[51] Int. Cl.⁶

A61K 35/84

A61K 9/68

A23G 3/30

[22] Application Date: June 12, 1996

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Number of pages in Claim: 1

Number of pages in Specification: 3

Number of pages of Figures: 0

[54] Title: **CHEWING GUM FOR ADJUSTING GASTRIC FUNCTION AND PROMOTING DIGESTION, AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD**

[57] Abstract: The invention discloses a chewing gum for adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion, and its manufacturing method. It is characterized by the process of adding to gum base five Chinese herbal medicines, namely, tuckahoe (*Poria cocos*), licorice root, fruit of amomum¹, bark of magnolia² and root of aucklandia³. Because of the medicinal effects of the five Chinese herbal medicines and the effect of stimulated salivation and accelerated digestion on the stomach and intestines, which occur as a physiological reaction of these organs to gum chewing, the inventive chewing gum is efficacious in regulating *qi*⁴, strengthening the spleen, adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion⁵.

¹ *Amomum villosum* or *Amomum longiligulare* (Zingiberaceae)—Tr.

² *Magnoliae officinalis* or *Magnoliae officinalis biloba* (Magnoliaceae)—Tr.

³ *Aucklandia lappa* (Compositae)—Tr.

⁴ *Qi* = Vital energy, a central concept of Chinese medicine—Tr.

⁵ The description of the benefits of the invention incorporates notions of Chinese medicine for which there are no equivalents in Western medicine—Tr.

CLAIMS

1. Chewing gum for adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion, characterized by the fact that it is manufactured by first preparing a powdered mixture of the Chinese herbal medicines tuckahoe, licorice root, fruit of amomum, bark of magnolia, and root of aucklandia; and then adding the powdered mixture to the gum base to obtain the chewing gum for adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion; comprising:

(1) the following Chinese herbal medicine mixture: 15-20 g of tuckahoe, 10-15 g of licorice root, 10-15 g of fruit of amomum, 5-10 g of bark of magnolia, and 1-5 g of root of aucklandia

(2) the following percentage ranges of the components:

Chinese herbal medicine mixture: 10-20 wt%

gum base: balance

2. Method of manufacturing the chewing gum for adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion in accordance with Claim 1, characterized by the following processes:

(1) The required herbal medicines specified in Claim 1 are selected, soaked and decocted to make a blend comprising 15-20 g of tuckahoe, 10-15 g of licorice root, 10-15 g of fruit of amomum, 5-10 g of bark of magnolia and 1-5 g of root of aucklandia. The compound is then granulated and sieved to produce a powdered mixture.

(2) The powdered mixture is added to gum base in an amount of 10-20 wt%, and blended to homogeneity.

SPECIFICATIONS

CHEWING GUM FOR ADJUSTING GASTRIC FUNCTION AND PROMOTING DIGESTION, AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD

The inventive product relates to a kind of chewing gum and to its manufacturing method, and specifically, to a Chinese medicine-containing chewing gum for adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion, which contains as its main constituents tuckahoe, fruit of amomum, licorice root, bark of magnolia and root of aucklandia; and its manufacturing method.

Today's chewing gum contains as its main constituents gum base, sugar alcohols, sweetener, flavoring, softener and fillers, which have no effect of regulating *qi*, strengthening the spleen, nourishing the stomach or promoting digestion. This prior-art chewing gum promotes digestion only by virtue of the physiological reaction of stimulated salivation and accelerated digestion in the stomach and intestine while the chewing gum is chewed, and therefore cannot achieve the ideal effect of adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion.

The purpose of this invention is to address the above-mentioned problems of the prior art by proposing a chewing gum for adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion. The inventive product is made by first preparing the powdered mixture of Chinese herbal medicines consisting of tuckahoe, fruit of amomum, licorice root, bark of magnolia and root of aucklandia; and then adding the powdered mixture to the gum base to obtain the chewing gum for adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion. Because of the medicinal effects of the five Chinese herbal medicines and the

effect of stimulated salivation and accelerated digestion in the stomach and intestine occurring as a physiological reaction of these organs to gum chewing, the inventive chewing gum is efficacious in regulating *qi*, strengthening the spleen, adjusting gastric function and promoting digestion.

The purpose of this invention is achieved with the following scheme:

1. The recipe for the product consists of:

powdered mixture of Chinese herbal medicines: 10-20 wt%

balance: gum base

wherein the powdered mixture of Chinese herbal medicines consists of:

15-20 g of tuckahoe, 10-15 g of licorice root, 10-15 g of fruit of amomum, 5-10 g of bark of magnolia and 1-5 g of root of aucklandia.

2. The product is made by the following processes:

(1) Selecting and soaking the required herbal medicines to produce a mixture comprising 15-20 g of tuckahoe, 10-15 g of licorice root, 10-15 g of fruit of amomum, 5-10 g of bark of magnolia and 1-5 g of root of aucklandia.

(2) The mixture is then granulated and sieved to make a powdered mixture. The powdered mixture is then added in the amount of 10-20 wt% to gum base and blended to homogeneity.

To further illustrate the effect of this inventive product on strengthening the spleen and adjusting gastric function, the functions of each of the Chinese herbal medicines contained in the inventive product are summarized as follows:

Tuckahoe: benefits *qi*, tranquilizes, invigorates the spleen, adjusts the gastric function, removes damp heat, strengthens the urinary bladder and controls diarrhea. It also cures deficiencies of the *qi*, impairment caused by stress, fullness in the chest and abdomen, edema, fluid retention of the chest and diaphragm, vomiting, diarrhea, strangury due to pathogenic heat, seminal emission, and amnesia.

Licorice: clears heat to expel miasma, regulates the body, invigorates to arrest deficiencies, harmonizes the *qi* and blood, removes various toxic substances, invigorates the viscera, and eliminates pathogenic fire. In the upper part of the body, it eliminates phlegm and relieves coughing; in the middle part of the body, it harmonizes the spleen and stomach; in the lower part of the body, it clears away heat to promote urination. The herbal medicine invigorates and strengthens by the mediating components, expels pathogenic factors from the muscles by the liver-targeted components, clears away heat by the cooling components, produces body fluid by the moistening components, and relaxes *qi* by the potency components. Roasted licorice is the fastest-acting of all medicines.

Fruit of amomum: promotes the circulation of stagnant *qi*, activates the spleen *qi*, eliminates undigested food, and adjusts the gastric function to stop pain. It cures stagnation of *qi*, fullness in the chest and abdomen, dysphagia, vomiting, diarrhea, morning sickness, metrorrhagia and morbid leukorrhea.

Bark of magnolia: warms middle-*jiao* to promote the flow of *qi*, disperses excess fullness, strengthens the spleen and stomach, promotes digestion and eliminates phlegm. It corrects the cold-type reverse, and cures vomiting, pain and fullness of the abdomen, diarrhea, indigestion, cough with dyspnea, and stagnation of *qi* and blood.

Root of aucklandia: promotes the circulation of *qi*, eliminates stagnation, soothes the liver, and strengthens the spleen and stomach. It cures all types of pain due to disorders of the *qi*, and relieves indigestion, stagnation, fullness of the chest and abdomen, vomiting and diarrhea.

The positive effects of the invention are as follows:

The inventive chewing gum not only has the taste and flavor of prior-art chewing gum, but also has a hint of herbal fragrance and the sweet taste of licorice. The significance of this invention is that, by adding to gum base the traditional medicines with the effect of regulating *qi*, strengthening the spleen, nourishing the stomach or promoting digestion, and combining them with the properties of

stimulated salivation and accelerated digestion in the stomach and intestine due to the chewing of the gum, the inventive product has the positive effect of invigorating the spleen and strengthening the stomach.

Embodiment (Producing the Optimum Effect):

The recipe used in this embodiment consists of 15 wt% powdered mixture of Chinese herbal medicine and 85 wt% gum base. The recipe of the powdered mixture consists of 20 g of tuckahoe, 15 g of licorice root, 15 g of fruit of amomum, 10 g of bark of magnolia and 5 g of root of aucklandia.

The product is made by selecting and soaking the required herbal medicines, and compounding according to the following recipe: 20 g of tuckahoe, 15 g of licorice root, 15 g of fruit of amomum, 10 g of bark of magnolia and 5 g of root of aucklandia. The mixture is then granulated and sieved with a 100 mesh sieve (the inner diameter of the sieve is 0.152 mm) to obtain the powdered mixture. The powdered mixture is added to gum base in the amount of 15 wt%, and blended to homogeneity.